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HAY RURAL DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

1941.

Mr.Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my report for the year 1941.This is again very restricted and is prepared on the lines indicated in Circulars 2314 (Wales) and 2067 (Wales).At the request of the Welsh Board of Health no reference is made to war time industrial ,military or other important developements,such as extensions of water supplies or sewerage works,or other public utility undertakings.
This report is confined to urgent and essential matters which have affected the public health during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following number of cases of infectious disease were received by me during the year.They refer to civilian cases only.

Diphtheria.....	4 cases.
Cerebrospinal Fever.....	3 cases.
Scarlet Fever.....	8 cases.
Measles.....	6 cases.
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis..	2 cases.
Whooping Cough.....	2 cases.

The cases of diphtheria occurred in one house in Talgarth and were notified before immunisation was commenced. One of these cases proved fatal.
The scarlet fever cases did not cause any epidemic being scattered throughout the year.
The measles cases formed part of a large epidemic which affected the greater part of the County.
The poliomyelitis or infantile paralysis cases occurred in an evacuated school and both proved fatal.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

In January,1941,the campaign of providing protection against diphtheria was commenced.This was adequately advertised and all the schools in my district were visited on three occasions when the injections were given.A modified procedure was adopted later in the year when,owing to the fact that the majority of the children were immunised on the first occasion,they were asked on the second occasion to attend at a certain definite time and place.This method is proving very satisfactory and the response is very good.A.P.T. was used and it was found that the reactions were very slight,being limited to occasional soreness and pain at the site of injection and sometimes a slight rise of temperature. No abscess was seen.
The following figures show the number of children immunised and the percentages.

Under 5 years.....	889.....	68.5%.
Over 5 years.....	3243....	84%.

All children between the ages of 1 year and 15 years were given the chance to become immune and it is proposed to offer the same facilities in the summer of each year in future.The above figures refer to the whole of the Northern Combined Districts.

No exceptional administrative measure was undertaken or recommended by me during the year.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
T.C.R.GEORGE.